

REMARKS

Rather than making numerous amendments to the claims to put them in proper U.S. format, Applicant is canceling Claims 1-12 and adding new Claims 13-24. These new claims embody the spirit of the original claims but have been placed in more proper U.S. format.

Applicant will now address each of the Examiner's objections and rejections in the order in which they appear in the Office Action.

Abstract

In the Office Action, the Examiner objects to the Abstract as not being on a separate page. Accordingly, Applicant is submitting herewith an Abstract on a separate page. Minor changes have been made to put the Abstract in proper U.S. format. As no new matter has been added, it is requested that this amendment be entered, and the objection withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112

The Examiner also rejects Claims 1, 7 and 10 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In particular, the Examiner objects to Claim 1, part "e" as being unclear why the code information requires fixing by the operating part. A similar objection is made to Claims 7 and 10. In response, Applicant believes that there has been a misunderstanding as to language. Applicant notes that character code information is compared to character image information, and when recognition is correct, the character code information is fixed without amendment. When the recognition is not correct, the character code information must be fixed after amendment.

Applicant has rewritten the independent claims so that this "operating" element more clearly

recites what the element does.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

The Examiner also rejects Claims 1, 2, 6-7 and 10-12 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Rokuto et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to a device and method for solving the problems of prior devices which require too many operations, cannot scan only the necessary or intended parts of a document, and cannot check the results of the converted character code before they are taken into the character recognition software. These problems are overcome by the present invention, wherein character image information is retrieved by an image sensor means, such as for example, a scanner mouse. The character image information retrieved by the scanner mouse is transmitted to a personal computer (PC) without conversion into character code. The transmitted character image information is converted into the character code information by character recognition software working in the background of the PC. The character code information is sent back to the scanner mouse and displayed on a display. As a result, the conversion results can be confirmed at hand. When the conversion results are correct, the character code information is fixed, and the fixed character code information is inserted into a cursor portion for the application software active in the PC.

In contrast, in Rokuto, character image information is retrieved not by an image sensor means such as a scanner mouse, but by an image data input part which is provided independent of the scanner mouse. Further, the scanner mouse does not have a display, as in the present invention, and thus the character code information cannot be confirmed at hand.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Rokuto does not disclose or suggest the

claimed invention, and the claims are patentable thereover. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

The Examiner also rejects Claims 3-5 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rokuto et al. in view of Ie et al. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

This is a rejection of dependent Claims. For at least the reasons discussed above, those claims dependent on the independent claims are also allowable over Rokuto. Ie also differs from the claimed invention in that in Ie, the character image information is converted by the OCR incorporated into the scanner mouse into the character code information. The character code information is then transmitted to the PC. As explained above, this is very different than the present invention.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Rokuto and Ie do not disclose or suggest the claimed invention, and the claims are patentable thereover. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

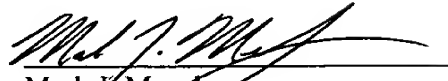
For at least the above-stated reasons, the claims of the present application are in an allowable condition and should now be allowed.

If any further fee should be due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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